

II. REMARKS

The Examiner is requested to reconsider the application in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks. It is believed that no new matter has been added.

It was observed during preparation of the Brief that an error in claims 28-29 had gone undetected by either the undersigned or the Examiner. A corrective amendment is being filed herewith to clarify that more than one computer is involved in the carrying out of these claims. An apology is offered for any confusion caused by the error. No further issues are believed to be raised by this amendment as the certifying is referenced in other claims, e.g., 6, 7, 15, etc.

It was also observed during preparation of the Brief that an error in claims 30-31 had gone undetected by either the undersigned or the Examiner. A corrective amendment is being filed herewith to ensure that claims 30 and 31 depend on other method claims, not an apparatus claim. An apology is offered for any confusion by the error. No further issues are believed to be raised by this amendment.

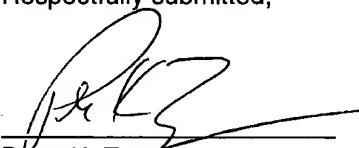
III. CONCLUSION

In response, the undersigned appreciates the Examiner's courtesy and if the prosecution of this case can be in any way advanced by a telephone discussion, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (312) 240-0824.

The application, as amended, is believed to be in condition for allowance, and favorable action is requested. If any further extension of time for responding is required, it is requested that this be deemed a petition therefore, and the Commissioner is authorized to charge any required fee, or credit any overcharge to, PTO Account 50-0235.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 17, 2003


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